



RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND PERMITTING TO EXPEDITE ALL PERMITTING REQUESTS FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF STATE PUBLIC HOUSING.

WHEREAS, a recent State housing study found that 84,000 families in Hawaii struggle to house themselves, including many who are part of the homeless and "hidden homeless" populations; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development estimated that in 2013 about 451 people out of every 100,000 in Hawaii were homeless, the highest per capita rate of all 50 states; and

WHEREAS, while the reasons that people fall into homelessness vary, homeless service providers and advocates say there is no doubt that Hawaii's extremely limited availability of affordable housing plays a major role in forcing people onto the streets and keeping them there; and

WHEREAS, in 2014, the State of Hawaii Public Housing Authority ("HPHA") reported to the Legislature that although it will continue to renovate existing properties and expand its supply, it has more than 11,000 families on its waiting list for housing; and

WHEREAS, according to the HPHA Annual Report for fiscal year 2014:

- HPHA is the sole public housing agency for the State and administers 6,196 federal and state low-income public housing units, housing over 6,100 families (which equals more than 20,000 individuals);
- HPHA understands that it does not simply provide roofs over the heads of Hawaii's most vulnerable populations, but serves as a lifeline for residents who are on the brink of becoming homeless;
- With a \$754 million backlog of repairs needed on the HPHA's five decade old housing inventory, HPHA pledges to continue to seek funding and assistance to expeditiously make needed improvements in order to maximize the State's affordable housing supply; and
- HPHA is committed to expeditiously serve wait list families and reach its 98 percent statewide average occupancy goal by repairing and improving vacant units as quickly as possible;

and



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WHEREAS, in addition to making repairs in-house, the HPHA also contracts with private master developers to redevelop major inventory facilities such as Mayor Wright Homes; and

WHEREAS, both HPHA workers and master developers rely upon securing City building and other permits in order to make repairs and improvements and proceed with redevelopment plans that result in maximizing the inventory of public affordable housing; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that it is incumbent on the City and County of Honolulu to assist in the preservation, repair, improvement, and maintenance of public housing on Oahu in order to address the affordable housing and homelessness crises facing our island home; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City and County of Honolulu that the Department of Planning and Permitting is urged to expedite all permitting requests for the improvement of State public housing; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Planning and Permitting is requested to work closely with the State HPHA to ensure that unnecessary delays, if any, are minimized; and



CITY COUNCIL
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
HONOLULU, HAWAII

No. 15-219

RESOLUTION

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Planning and Permitting, the Mayor, and the Managing Director.

INTRODUCED BY:

[Handwritten signature]

DATE OF INTRODUCTION:

AUG 3 2015

Honolulu, Hawaii

Councilmembers

CITY COUNCIL
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
HONOLULU, HAWAII
CERTIFICATE

RESOLUTION 15-219

Introduced: 08/03/15 By: ERNEST MARTIN

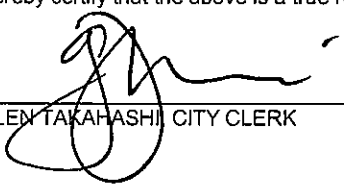
Committee: ZONING AND PLANNING

Title: RESOLUTION URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND PERMITTING TO EXPEDITE ALL PERMITTING REQUESTS FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF STATE PUBLIC HOUSING.

Voting Legend: * = Aye w/Reservations

08/20/15	ZONING AND PLANNING	CR-341 – RESOLUTION REPORTED OUT OF COMMITTEE FOR ADOPTION.
09/02/15	COUNCIL	CR-341 AND RESOLUTION 15-219 WERE ADOPTED. 8 AYES: ANDERSON, ELEFANTE, FUKUNAGA, KOBAYASHI, MANAHAN, MENOR, OZAWA, PINE. 1 ABSENT: MARTIN.

I hereby certify that the above is a true record of action by the Council of the City and County of Honolulu on this RESOLUTION.



GLEN TAKAHASHI, CITY CLERK



ERNEST Y. MARTIN, CHAIR AND PRESIDING OFFICER